

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John A. Lingl, #57,414, on 5/6/09.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

#### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

3. **Claims 34 and 38** are **amended** as follows:

CLAIM 34. (Currently Amended) A connecting device for a plug-in connection comprising:

- a housing part having at least one receiving opening for the insertion of ~~the~~ a pipeline;
- a clamping ring arranged in the receiving opening ~~and~~, in order to lock the pipeline in place within the receiving opening;
  - wherein an outer cone surface of the clamping ring interacts with an inner cone surface of the housing part;
  - the housing part being made in two parts from a base part and an insert part, the insert part being ~~is~~ connected to the base part via a snap-action form-fitting connection;

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wherein the insert part includes the inner cone surface;

the insert part having a dirt seal for resting on the circumference of the pipeline in place within the receiving opening;

the insert part being of a first, relatively hard and dimensionally stable plastic material;

the dirt seal being of a second relatively soft and elastic plastic material;

the second material being attached directly onto the first material to form a single piece with a material joint therebetween;

wherein retaining edges are formed on the insert part following the inner cone as an axial end stop for the clamping ring; ~~and~~

the insert part including at least two spring arms;

wherein first retaining edges are located near the at least two spring arms;

second retaining edges being ~~are~~ situated between the at least two spring arms;

and

wherein the first retaining edges are ~~being~~ offset with respect to the second retaining edges by an axial offset in the direction of the inner cone whereby the clamping ring, when subjected to a force acting in the pulling-out direction of the pipeline, comes to bear against the first retaining edges, and the at least two spring arms are subjected to a radially outwardly acting retaining-force component.

CLAIM 38. (Currently Amended) A connecting device for a plug-in connection comprising:

a housing part having at least one receiving opening for the insertion of a ~~the~~ pipeline,

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a clamping ring arranged in the receiving opening ~~and~~, in order to lock the pipeline in place within the receiving opening;

wherein an outer cone surface of the clamping ring interacts with an inner cone surface of the housing part;

the housing part being made in two parts from a base part and an insert part, the insert part being is connected to the base part via a snap-action form-fitting connection;

wherein the insert part includes the inner cone surface;

the insert part having a dirt seal for resting on the circumference of the pipeline in place within the receiving opening,

the insert part being of a first, relatively hard and dimensionally stable plastic material;

the dirt seal being of a second relatively soft and elastic plastic material,

the second material being attached directly onto the first material to form a single piece with a material joint therebetween; and

wherein the insert part has, for the purpose of being able to release the pipeline, at least two radially elastic spring arms having longitudinal slots in between the elastic spring arms,

the at least two radially elastic spring arms engaging ~~engage-releasably~~, by means of radially outwardly protruding latching attachments, ~~in a form-fitting manner~~ in corresponding latching openings of the base part in a form-fitting manner.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fannie Kee whose telephone number is (571) 272-1820. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aaron M Dunwoody/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3679

/F. K./  
Examiner, Art Unit 3679  
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